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End of an era

Reverend Max Ward led Maple Lake United Church (MLUC) in its closing service. The church has been a faith community home for its members since 1900 on July 17. See a future issue for the story on the final day of Maple Lake United Church. See page 9 for more photos. /GRACE OBORNE Special to Times

AH council will review Dimensions zoning application

Zoning for hybrid “tourist resort-health clinic” to be reviewed by council, neighbours concerned

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

A neighbour of a new Algonquin Highlands business, described as a hybrid tourist resort-health clinic, plans to speak against the facil-

ity at Thursday's council meeting.

Plans for Dimensions Algonquin Highlands are coming to fruition, but as the business intends to offer its guests a space to try “psychedelic therapies” the project has faced scrutiny and is still waiting for some municipal approvals.

Amber Meirik, who lives on Canopy Lane, next to the Maple Lake property where the resort is going up, says she's worried about the safety of her family – including her teen-aged daughters – given that Dimensions isn't a typical resort. She has concerns about guests, who in a drug state, could wander off

and cause harm to people in the area.

“I really don't like the fact that I'm a wide-open sitting duck, right beside it,” she said.

Dimensions Algonquin Highlands is intended to be a flagship resort for a new company known as Dimensions Retreats,

see ‘RE-ZONING’ page 2

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An image showing the lakeview cabins planned for Dimensions Algonquin Highlands.

‘Re-zoning applications are considered within the lens of land use planning ... ’

from page 1

which wants to capitalize on the growing “wellness tourism” industry.

In a spring press release, it said it offers guests a chance to “immerse themselves in the healing benefits of nature” and that it offers “healing modalities and plant medicines” including “cannabis and cacao, as permitted by the local municipality, as well as psilocybin to guests that have received approval by Health Canada’s Schedule 56 exemptions and Special Access Programs.”

Several months ago, Algonquin Highlands’ planning department, thinking the project was a typical tourism resort, approved its construction, as the property was already zoned for that purpose. However, as new details emerged, a stop work order was issued, and Dimensions had to apply for a zoning variance to allow it to offer psychological services and other wellness activities.

That application is expected to be addressed in a report to council for its July 21 meeting, which is expected to be held virtually at 9 a.m. (The agenda and the report weren’t publicly available at the time of this writing).

When contacted last week, Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt said it wouldn’t be appropriate for her to weigh in on the matter yet.

“While we are aware of differing public opinion on both the property and the application, it’s inappropriate for any member of council to provide public comment about the property

or the application without having heard from all parties to the matter,” she said in an email. “Re-zoning applications are considered within the lens of land use planning as opposed to personal sentiment, and our role is to go into these meetings with open minds, to hear from all parties, and debate an outcome.”

Meirik feels Dimensions hasn’t always been honest about its intentions. She says she would have been happy if the company was re-booting the retreat as a standard tourism operation – the 45-acre Maple Lake property was once the home of Mishpacha Resort.

She’s hoping that if the project can’t be stopped, the municipality will at least enforce the installation of a gate. She says other neighbours in the area have the same concerns.

When contacted by the *Times*, a Dimensions spokeswoman, Melanie Coates, said construction of the Dimensions Algonquin Highlands is nearing completion. It’s waiting to hear the result of the July 21 meeting to see if it has the go ahead to provide additional services that would “bring our amenities up to a luxury level to serve the modern well-being retreat guest,” Coates wrote in an email.

She said about 20 staff have been hired to work on the site, but they’re not hosting guests yet, as they’re still going through a training period. They hope to welcome their first guest in the fall.

In a spring interview with the *Times*, CEO Chris Dawson touted Dimensions as a safe, supervised place for people to take medicine, while under the care of therapists.

OPP caution public about scam

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are issuing a warning and seeking the public’s assistance in relation to an emergency scam investigation in Minden Hills Township.

On July 14, the victim received a call from a male falsely identifying himself as a police officer. The fraudster advised the victim that their grand daughter had been arrested for drug-related offences and was subsequently going to be held for a bail hearing. The fraudster then advised the victim that a payment of \$9,000 was mandatory for her release. The scammer warned the victim to not speak to his granddaughter’s parents or anyone else, including law enforcement, as the transaction would not take place if that was the case. A female also spoke to the victim on the phone impersonating the granddaughter. Arrangements were made and a female attended the victim’s residence the following day to collect the money.

Members of the public are cautioned that officers would never attend a residence to obtain bail money.

Investigators are seeking the public’s assistance in identifying the female and the vehicle.

The female is described between 18 to 23 years of age, white, approximately 5’5” with a slim build, weighing 100 to 110 pounds, brown eyes, brown hair in a bun, red and black tattoo on left side of neck, one inch from ear, which runs down neck toward collarbone. She was last seen wearing dark pants and a dark zip-up coat. The vehicle is described as silver-coloured 2013-2018 Hyundai Santa Fe.

Anyone with information pertaining to this investigation is asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-

1122 or 705 286-1431, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.khcrimestoppers.com.

For additional information on ongoing scams in Canada and to report fraud, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/.

If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, please contact the police.

Submitted by Haliburton Highlands OPP

CORRECTION

A story about plans for Dimensions Algonquin Highlands that ran on the front page of the *Minden Times* on July 13 contained some incorrect information. The story said the business was expecting to host its first guests in July. While that was the plan at the time the story was written in April, the plan changed and that story was not updated before it was published. Dimensions Algonquin Highlands is now training staff at the site, but doesn’t expect to host its first guests until the fall. The *Minden Times* regrets the error and any confusion it caused.

CORRECTION

The front page photo on the *Minden Times* published Wednesday, July 13 showing musician, Linda Robertson was incorrectly identified as Wendy Connelly.

Rogers outage stirs up concerns and questions

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

A recent national connectivity outage is making local organizations and businesses think about the what-ifs around a repeat situation.

With service provider Rogers experiencing an outage on July 8 across the country, there were millions of Canadian residents and businesses left unable to complete purchases with debit cards and E-transfers, access the internet, complete phone calls and send texts.

In a public message from Rogers president and CEO Tony Staffieri, it was stated that the cause of the outage was “a network system failure following a maintenance update in our core network, which caused some of our routers to malfunction early Friday morning. We disconnected the specific equipment and redirected traffic, which allowed our network and services to come back online over time as we managed traffic volumes returning to normal levels.”

For many, Rogers networks took far too long to return to normal, with some facing an entire work day without access to essential internet and phone services.

Rogers sent out a media statement on Saturday, July 9 at 7 a.m. that said they had restored services for “the vast majority” of customers.

The impact of the outage in the Haliburton Highlands ranged from minor inconveniences to entire companies having to set back work for days.

Those most affected in the Haliburton Highlands were retailers experiencing failed debit functions with their machines, companies that use Rogers for their phone and internet systems, and people that work from home.

Office administrator at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Kirstley Dams said, “I think the overall opinion is frustration [from] clients or customers who only had debit available, and there would have potentially been lost sales or chaos at checkouts with people needing to abandon orders to get to ATMs. The other thing is that a lot of businesses would have incurred more



Kegel Heating and Cooling employee Jamie Pyl checks his equipment to prepare for a day of work. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

charges during the outage since a lot of credit cards were still going through, but most payment processors have a higher charge to the business of credit card purchases than debit card purchases.”

One of the more fortunate businesses during the outage was Foodland in Haliburton.

Manager Brad Park said that the Rogers outage affected their debit card functions like many other places, but they were busier that Friday than the previous year, so the outage brought in more shoppers than usual.

For the Haliburton County Development Corporation, using NPTC as an internet provider meant that both their office and Business Incubator space remained online.

“It was great for our clients who needed the internet that day, but town was definitely a flurry of commotion,” said HCDC Business Incubator coordinator Kat Schouten.

Owner of Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc. Brandon Nimigon said that their brokerage uses Bell as an internet provider, so the company office was not affected.

“A few of our agents who use Rogers were greatly affected from having no phones or access to anything such as booked showings,

accessing lockboxes, and emails,” he said.

Andrea Hagarty from Bonnie View Inn said although the resort faced a few setbacks, the issues were manageable.

“The shortage did not impact us majorly, other than maybe a few people didn’t come in because they thought it might. Most people with debit have credit cards or cash. A couple of people couldn’t call to say they would be late checking in.”

Other individuals and businesses faced far more challenging situations caused by the outage.

Unfortunately, the first day of CanoeFM’s annual Radiothon fundraiser was on Friday, July 8.

The station’s manager Roxanne Casey said, “The Radiothon started out very slow due to all the issues that Rogers presented us with. People were unable to call in, and we couldn’t process payments, which was all a bit of a challenge. Our Friday totals were down substantially from other years. We had intended to have pop-up auction items aired all day Friday, but decided against using them as there just weren’t the people with access to phones, so we noticed the bidding

was way down.”

The problems were resolved by Saturday and Sunday, so CanoeFM was able to make up for lost time and raise close to \$39,000 over the weekend.

Taylor Vince, who works from home for IT World Canada, a video production company, as a digital content creator experienced lost work days.

“That was quite the headache for everybody. We had to cancel four video interviews that were scheduled to be recorded over Zoom on Friday. Having to delay the recordings meant that the schedule for our entire creative services team of eight people was set back about two days,” she said.

Many trades workers were negatively affected by the Rogers outage in more than one way and seek new solutions to help avoid similar circumstances in the future.

Operations manager at Kegel Heating and Cooling Kyla Sisson said the company lost access to both their internet and phones during the Rogers outage.

“With the internet out it means our computer and phone systems don’t work. We have a VoIP phone system that requires the internet to function, which is really unfortunate because our customers couldn’t contact us, and we couldn’t contact them. This would be a terrible situation to have during the heating season as we deal with many no-heat calls that are emergency situations that we have to take care of as soon as possible. Without the internet, we would have no way to receive those calls and dispatch a technician. We have a generator installed at our

see STARLINK page 4

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Members of the Public will participate electronically, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

July 28 – Regular Council Meeting
August 25 – Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in July and August.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

We are hosting an Open House & Recruitment Day on Monday August 8th from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Minden Hills Fire Hall 12418 Hwy 35. Bring the family to see the fire trucks and talk to our firefighters. Are you interested in becoming a firefighter? Come ask questions and fill out an application.

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Starlink considered option

from page 3

office to deal with power outages, but there isn't much we can do to prepare for internet services."

Although Rogers is automatically crediting Canadian customers with the equivalent of five days of service on their August bill, Kegel Heating and Cooling is in pursuit of more stability.

Sisson said that company will be switching from Rogers to Starlink for their internet services as soon as they become available.

Starlink internet is much faster than internet that uses a fibre-optic cable because it uses many satellites that are 60 times closer to Earth than singular geostationary satellites which are used by most internet providers use. This means that it takes less time for data to travel from the user to the Starlink satellite and back.

"Starlink internet works by sending information through the vacuum of space. Starlink is a constellation of multiple satellites that orbit the planet much closer to Earth to cover the entire globe," said the Starlink website.

Sisson said that Kegel Heating and Cooling is on the waitlist for Starlink Business which will be available in Haliburton County in 2023.

Discovery Dream Homes design and consulting associate Kirk Figueira said he wasn't able to get in contact with sub-traders that were scheduled to deliver materials on the same day.

"The issue is that everybody's dropping landlines to save money. That solid phone line that used to connect a person's phone to other people's phones has been exchanged for electronic smart devices that become useless when not connected to a network," he said.

Figueira has been a Rogers customer since 1995 and is deciding to continue to use its services.

"This is the first of this kind of issue I have ever witnessed," he said. "I believe this is only a sign of things to come as we become more dependent on this sort of technological infrastructure."

Rogers has outlined an action plan to attempt to avoid a similar situation in the future.

Staffieri said in his statement, "We will take every step necessary, and continue to make significant investments in our networks to strengthen our technology systems, increase network stability for our customers, and enhance our testing."

Summer strumming

Performer Chad Ingram performs during a concert on Saturday, July 9 at the Haliburton Highlands Brewing at the Abbey Gardens property, located at 1012 Garden Gate Drive, Algonquin Highlands. Ingram performed with musicians Tim Tofflemire and Gaelen Schiedel-Webb. See www.haliburtonhighlandsbrewing.ca/events/ for other performances. /DARREN LUM Staff

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OPP detachment welcomes online buyers and sellers

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

Finding that safe public space for your next online purchase is only an OPP detachment away.

The Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment is inviting the public to their designated “community safe zone” in their parking lot located steps from Highway 35.

Project Safe Trade is an OPP initiative that aims to make online transactions safer for both buyers and sellers by providing a well-lit, public place to meet.

The project is an Ontario-wide initiative with designated safe locations in Bracebridge, Collingwood, Thornbury, City of Kawartha Lakes, Carleton Place, Central Hastings, Hawkesbury, Prince Edward County, Quinte West, Bancroft, Essex, Wellington County, Grey Bruce, Elliot Lake, Mattawa, Manitoulin, Little Current, East Algoma, Espanola, Sault Ste Marie, and now Haliburton County.

The Haliburton Highlands detachment has two parking spaces in their parking lot with Project Safe Trade signage and paint provided by the Township of Minden Hills.

OPP provincial constable Michael Melnychuk said to the Echo, “It is important to conduct these transactions in public places when feasible. People coming to your private residence may obtain personal details about you, what is at your residence, and who lives there. You may also not feel comfortable with the people you are meeting, whereas in a public place, you can just drive away and not feel pressured. At the OPP station, you are not isolated. The area is well lit and clearly visible



The Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment are enabling the public to use their parking lot for Project Safe Trade which provides designated parking spaces for online buyers and sellers to meet in a safe, public, well-lit area. Pictured is OPP Staff Sergeant Rob Flindall. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

from [Highway 35].”

The website states that only five per cent of internet and phone scams are reported due to victim embarrassment, so the OPP created Project Safe Trade to help decrease the amount of online transactions made in secluded parking lots or personal residences.

“Online classified and auction sites are often used as tools to sell stolen property to unknowing victims and can present a safety threat. In order to increase public safety and reduce crime, the Ontario Provincial Police is inviting members of the public to use their

OPP detachment parking lot to facilitate property transactions arranged online,” as stated on the OPP website.

Administrator of the Haliburton/Minden Moms Swap and Buy Facebook page Aarica Hurl said that some people may feel intimidated to use the OPP detachment as a meeting space, but those that desire to feel safe will use it.

“I think it’s a good idea to have a safe location in general, whether it’s the police station or somewhere else. Transactions need to feel safe, and in our rural area, there are unknown

dangers like poorly-maintained roads and areas without cell coverage,” she said.

Hurl explained, if she were to buy off of a website like Kijiji when she isn’t acquainted with the seller, she would prefer to meet at a safe, public location like the OPP detachment.

“If the person had bad intentions, they are less likely to show up if that was where you picked as your meeting spot,” Hurl said.

She added a public meeting place would be safer for her family.

“As a mom of two, I know there were times I was unsure about meeting at someone’s house alone or people coming to my home, so I would ask to meet at a parking lot in town where people could see us,” Hurl said.

Any legal transactions made at the Project Safe Trade meeting area will not be mediated by the OPP.

“Under normal circumstances, there will be no police intervention. Officers will not provide documentation and will not be a witness to a transaction. However, should one of the parties request an officer, one will respond. Officers will only intervene if the transaction becomes a bylaw, provincial, or criminal matter,” read an OPP statement.

The Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment is located at 12598 Highway 35 in Minden. For more information about Project Safe Trade, visit opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=59dfa1e78f94ac460b0bfada.

“The project is still new, but we are welcoming anyone who wants to utilize this option,” Melnychuk said.

Buyers can also use the Canadian Police Information Centre to check if any of the property they purchase has been reported stolen at www.cipc-cpic.ca/index-eng.htm.

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Soak in the sun, take a walk in the woods

Savour the summer sun, take a slow walk through the forest and get out there.

I'm a big fan of seasons that don't require much but the clothes on my back and a desire to breathe fresh air. Not to disparage winter, but the effort required to dress for the weather can feel disproportionate to the activity of anything less than 30 minutes

So, summer is here and it's fleeting and will be gone before you blink. Take every opportunity to soak in the solar rays that shine the brightest and warmest at this time of year. This can be while fishing from a dock or a shoreline of a lake or from the bow of a boat. It can be sitting in your lawn chair, enjoying your favourite drink. Or, it can be floating on your back, carried by the current of the river. It can also just be between weeding efforts, or splitting logs at home.

Be open to the opportunities of the season, whether it's taking time to embrace the waterways of adventures or the forests of discovery.

The hours of daylight are long, perfect for being able to finish chore lists and still be able to get away from the house for leisurely pursuits, whether its a ride down the Haliburton County Rail Trail or a cruise around the lake. Let the sun warm your face as you take an afternoon nap.

Value the little things. The sounds of the summer sound track, which includes the peepers and cicadas performing for Revel in the engineering of spiderwebs, given voluminous depth by the morning

dew. See the vistas. Let the soul shine. Lie on a sandy beach or a flat rock and let the warm wind pass over you, as the clouds float by. Lose yourself. Forget time. Be in the present. Accept the gifts that the season can provide. You're only as young as you are at this moment. Seize the moment. Seize the day. Seize the season.

Summer is also a time when it's easy to get into the woods and take advantage of what an Ontario Parks article said are well-documented benefits of what is known as "forest bathing, forest therapy" or

Shinrin-yoku, which was developed in Japan in the 1980s. Scientific evidence supports the health benefits associated with spending time in nature.

From the article: "Because of this, forest bathing became an integral part of preventive health care

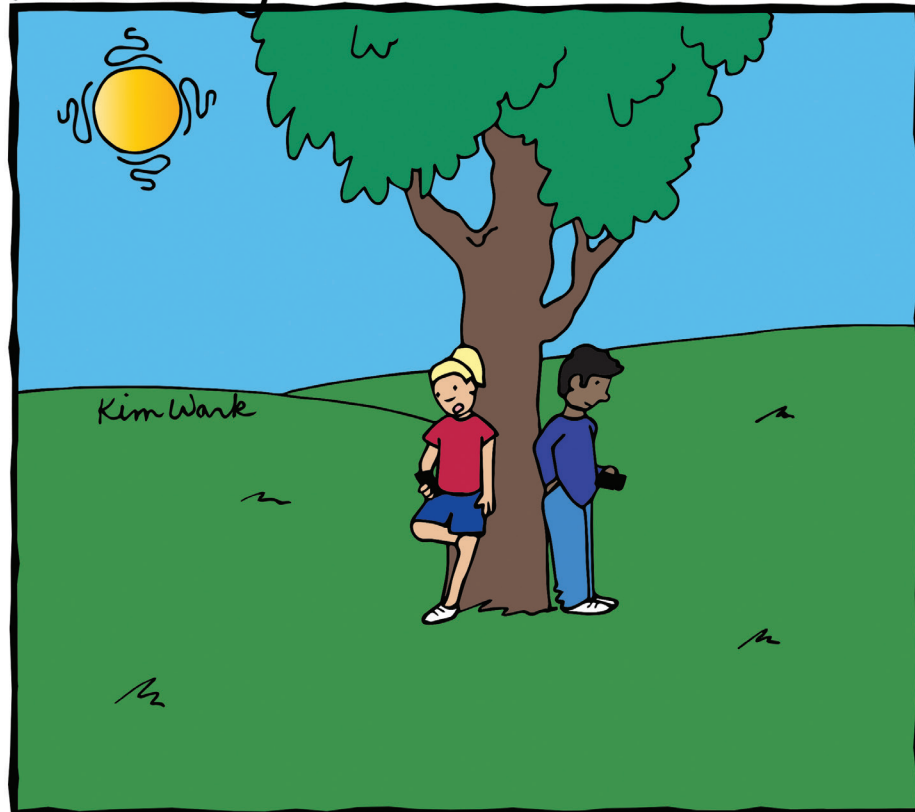
and healing in Japanese medicine. The idea is that when humans spend time in a natural setting, especially under the canopy of a forest, they experience rejuvenating benefits to the mind, body and spirit."

We don't have a structured program here in the Highlands, but there are benefits from just taking a walk in the forest. Unlike urban areas where opportunities are limited, the Highlands offers a wealth of areas to go, which include behind Archie Stouffer Elementary School or the Dahl Forest.

The next season is on the horizon. The crisp chill of autumn mornings are only a distant thought, but we all know it's inevitable. Value the present, after all, it's a gift and it's worth savouring.

**DARREN LUM**
Editor

Kwarky



"I'm tired of hacking websites.
Want to climb a tree instead?"

Raccoon tans

THE OTHER day, after I took off my fishing glasses, Jenn looked at me funny and asked if I had secretly gotten a job at McDonald's portraying the Hamburger.

"I wish," I replied. "No, what you are looking at is a classic angler's raccoon tan line."

It has actually been a few years since I have donned a raccoon tan, so her mistake was forgivable. For those of you who do not have an angler in the family, allow me to explain.

An angler's raccoon tan is that lighter band around the eyes that occurs when someone spends too much time on the water wearing polarized fishing glasses. It is similar to the tan a person might get if they were placed blindfolded in front of an indecisive firing squad in a tropical country, but probably a lot less worrisome.

Here's a pro tip. If you wear a ball cap, as most anglers do, the lighter patch will extend up the forehead, giving the angler's head a unique two-toned appearance that's a real attention getter.

Aside from complementing the trucker arm tan line that most anglers also get, the raccoon tan serves one other essential purpose. It allows anglers to instantly identify fellow anglers in a crowd. This is more important than you might think.

For instance, imagine you as an angler somehow got roped into a fancy soirée where it is frowned upon to show photos of fish you caught or talk about your favourite lure. At gatherings like this, it would be very easy to get trapped in a conversation in which people are intent on discussing social issues, morality, economics, art, en-

tertainment, the pressing news items of the day or even "literature" that doesn't necessarily include cartoon drawings.

Yet, if you keep your wits about you and scan the room for another person with a raccoon tan, you will soon be discussing the truly important things, such as whether or not the bass are taking black or pumpkinseed rubber tube baits.

But that's not all. A person with a raccoon tan will almost certainly be conversant in the expiration dates of most major brands of fish attractants, the best places to get dew worms and leeches, which lens makes your fish look bigger on social media, and other things that are actually useful in day-to-day life.

In other words, once you find that – and I don't think soul mate is too strong a word – at an event like this, time will go by so much quicker – and by the time the event is over, you might have learned about new fishing spots or better ways to exaggerate. In which case, you'll leave the event thinking

it was not a complete waste of time.

But there are disadvantages in having a raccoon tan too. For instance, if a burglar is breaking into houses in the area, the people with the raccoon tans are always the first suspects – which is hardly fair. And, I won't lie, I've had neighbours look at me funny the morning after their garbage got knocked over by actual raccoons.

Also, raccoons might consider your tan cultural appropriation. Never forget that.

There's noting you can do about this anyway. If you fish a lot and wear polarized glasses, you will get a raccoon tan. On the upside, at least other anglers will see you are earning your stripes.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

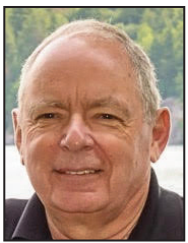
Columns and Letters to the Editor

Turn on the audio

It's the time of summer craft sales and I find myself in a sunlit park helping a daughter display and sell some of her artwork. I've tossed some of my own work on the display table – books that folks might find interesting summer reading.

A guy approaches, picks up a book, looks it over closely and says it is something he would like to read. Then he puts the book down and says he would love to read it but just doesn't have time.

"I can't seem to find time to read these days," he says.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

I agree. Finding time to sit with a paper book or a tablet copy is a struggle.

"Is it available as an audiobook?" he asks. "I find that's the easiest way to do my reading these days. I can listen to the book while doing other things."

I've never considered publishing any of my work as audiobooks. In fact, I have never listened to an audiobook because I don't understand how anyone can focus on two things at once.

It appears, however, that I am out of touch.

The latest sales survey for the Audio Publishers Association (APA) says that nearly 74,000 audiobooks were published in the U.S. last year. That's

an increase of six per cent over 2020, when 71,000 were published, a stunning increase of 39 per cent over 2019. Audiobook revenue increased 25 per cent to \$1.6 billion last year.

Twelve years ago, in 2010, only 6,200 audiobooks were published in the U.S.

Canadian data is sketchy but in 2018 audiobooks made up only 3.6 per cent of book purchases in Canada. That figure rose to five per cent in 2019 and corresponded with a slight drop in hardcover sales.

All said, audiobooks are becoming very popular, quite rapidly. The majority of users are younger people, mostly under 45. Almost one-third of audiobook listeners are ages 18 to 29.

I'm still skeptical about how you can focus on a book while driving or washing the dishes. I'm not alone in my skepticism. Studies over the years have found that people are slower and less accurate when they do two tasks at once.

These studies have shown that when you switch your attention from one thing to another, a bit of your mind is still focused on the previous thing. When you switch back, you have to remind yourself where you were.

People who don't like audiobooks have two main criticisms:

You can't easily skip sections or underline or highlight good quotes or thoughts you might want to look at later. Secondly, you have one voice doing all the characters. Also, voices vary and the narrator of your audiobook might have one you find irritating.

Audiobook listeners who have been surveyed say they prefer professional narrators over author-read books.

On the plus side, audiobooks are a blessing for the visually impaired. Paper books can be difficult in low light conditions or when smaller type leaves the reader straining. They also are good for people who have difficulty holding a book.

I'm going to join the trend and try an audiobook. I suspect I'll find I like listening to novels but will not do well with a non-fiction book from which I want to get information.

But the problem of finding time for books likely will not be completely cured by audiobooks. Finding time is a problem for most activities these days.

Successful people say the real answer lies in how we allocate our time. Allocating time is how successful people increase productivity.

Allocating time comes down to making choices. The time is there, it's just a matter of using it for the things you decide are most important.

It is said that the average person spends 28 hours a week watching television. That is 1,680 minutes a week.

A person who reads a page a minute could read 1,600 pages or roughly three pocketbooks in that time.

That's not to suggest that we give up watching TV. There are many little ways to change how we use our time and allocate more to things – like reading – which are important but don't get enough of our time.

CanoeFM Radiothon receives \$39,000 in donations

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

Thanks to a generous community, CanoeFM's annual Radiothon is being heralded a success despite facing technical challenges related to the country-wide Rogers outage on the first day of the fundraiser.

The 14th annual Radiothon raised close to \$39,000, which was held from July 8 to 10.

Station manager Roxanne Casey said that the station's staff and volunteers were very happy with the results of the Radiothon.

"The community was incredible and the response was huge. There were so many people dropping in or calling to bid on our auction items, and we received so many great comments about the services we provide and our volunteers. All the volunteers love what they do, but it is nice when the community recognizes the importance of community radio," she said.

On Friday, July 8, many Rogers customers were without phone service due to an outage, so they couldn't call in to the Radiothon to

donate or bid on auction items.

"The Radiothon started out very slow due to all the issues that Rogers presented us with. People were unable to call in, and we couldn't process payments, which was a bit of a challenge. Our Friday totals were down substantially from other years," Casey said.

Despite this, Saturday and Sunday brought in a large amount of donations.

The event also featured an in-person auction with more than 70 packages to bid on.

Surprise pop-up auction items were meant to be broadcast on the radio on July 8, but CanoeFM decided against using them due to callers being unable to phone in to the station. The remaining items are available for bids at canoe.fm.com.

As a not-for-profit organization, CanoeFM will use the funds raised to help pay for operation expenses at the station.

Casey said, "CanoeFM has become an integral part of Haliburton County. We provide a place to showcase a variety of local talent, and we offer volunteer opportunities to every age group."



Radio volunteer Doug Hall broadcasts during the 100.9 CanoeFM Radiothon fundraiser on Friday, July 8. The event was held from July 8 to July 10 to raise funds for the not-for-profit community radio station. The event also featured an auction of 70 packages. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

HCPL's DVD of the Month - July



12 Mighty Orphans is the true story of the "Mighty Mites", the football team from an orphanage in Fort Worth who went from playing without shoes, uniforms, or even a football, to playing for the Texas state championships during the Great Depression. The architect of their success, legendary high school football coach Rusty Russell, shocked everyone by giving up a privileged position so he could teach and coach at the orphanage. Rusty's secret? He himself was an orphan. Recognizing that his scrawny players couldn't beat the other teams with brawn, Rusty developed innovative strategies that would come to define modern football as we know it. With Rusty's devoted guidance, his players and their resilient spirit became an inspiration to their city, state, and an entire broken nation, even catching the attention of one President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Check out this underdog story from HCPL today.

Farmers want Ontario to step up

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

A shortage of doctors to treat big farm animals is hurting Haliburton County's agriculture sector.

Godfrey Tyler is an experienced livestock farmer and knows how to take care of his animals. But he shudders at the thought of experiencing a sudden emergency that even he can't fix and would require a professional vet, such as a bad cow birthing experience, known to farmers as a calf breech.

"I don't know, I'll probably have to shoot animals," he says, with remorse in his voice. "How do you say that to people?"

Tyler, of Waverly Brook Farm in Haliburton Highlands, is willing to paint the grim scene to illustrate the dire problem facing Haliburton County's agricultural community; a lack of readily available veterinarians for farm animals.

The problem means that farmers have to solve problems themselves, even if not comfortable doing so, or pay impractical prices to access a vet from outside the region. Godfrey, and others who spoke to the Haliburton Echo, are calling for the provincial government and animal welfare institutions to put more creative thinking into solving what they say is a long-standing problem that affects, not just Haliburton County, but several rural Ontario regions. If not, the livelihoods of livestock farmers – the lifeblood of our food systems – will be at risk.

The loss of service

Before 2021, Haliburton-area farmers had a local vet, who could attend to local emergency calls; Dr. Aimee Coysh Filion of Haliburton Veterinary Services.

But at the start of 2021, she suspended offering on-call services to big animals and limited her practice to in-house visits. In a letter to her clients sent in Nov. 2020, she announced the decision and acknowledged it wasn't an easy one. One of her colleagues was leaving the clinic to return to her family in Ireland. This factor, and a lack of available vets, meant the clinic couldn't continue to offer services to farmers.

"It is unfortunate, but not many veterinarians want to practice mixed animal medicine, or do on-call," she wrote in the letter. "Furthermore, there is a serious lack of veterinarians in our province as a whole, and many clinics have to search for a longer period of time to find one. Due to all of these factors, our situation has reached a point where we need to set new boundaries to ensure that we can continue to give the level of service to which you are accustomed."

Attempts to reach Filion to comment for this story were unsuccessful, however sources who spoke to the Haliburton Echo did not blame Filion for the decision.

"What other discipline is available 72 hours a week?" said Gord Mitchell, secretary and treasurer of the Northern Producer Animal Health Network, which is monitoring Haliburton County's vet shortage. "She has to have some time for herself and some time to sleep."

The NPAHN has, for years, been working to address the extraordinary challenge of making a limited number of vets



Haliburton County's agricultural community is facing a dire need for farm animal veterinarians, which means that many animal owners are having to deal with situations on their own. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

accessible to all farmers, even those who are sprinkled about vast rural regions.

The NPAHN oversees the Veterinary Assistance Program, which gives extra compensation to vets for providing their services to rural farmers in Northern Ontario regions. (Haliburton County is one of the most southern regions covered by the NPAHN) It's worked in different ways since its inception in 1945, but it now provides vets \$1.20 per kilometre they travel to attend a farm for an emergency call. This makes vets services more affordable to farmers, as they only have to pay for the service, and not additional mileage fees.

But if no local vets are participating in the program, as is the case in Haliburton now, then farmers have limited practical options.

Sources who spoke to the Haliburton Echo said there are vets from areas such as Bobcaygeon, Peterborough and Muskoka who are willing to travel to Haliburton County farms – however, those options aren't practical if it's a time-limited emergency.

Tyler said he knows vets in Lindsay and Bracebridge who could, theoretically, make the trip to his farm, if needed, but they would charge about \$250 "before I start." Then, they could charge \$2 to \$3 per kilometre as a mileage expense, because they're not part of the VAP (which is meant for northern Ontario regions), he said.

The value of steer in Ontario has hovered around \$226 to \$268 per 100 pounds, recently Tyler pointed out. So, mathematically, the cost to provide veterinary services to farm

animals isn't near its return on investment if there's a local vet shortage.

That's the stark economic reality. But, of course, Tyler knows there's an additional ethical and emotional component that makes the dilemma even worse.

"Every animal is a part of your life and to lose one is a tragedy itself," he said.

Solutions needed

The shortage of local vets is also affecting Shane Dykstra, a Minden-area farmer, who owns hogs, goats, cows and chickens. But he understands there's challenges to keeping people in the profession.

"Why would you want to be a vet?" he says. "Have you been outside today?"

The quip is in reference to the hot weather, which makes for tough working conditions. Dykstra also said he understood Filion's decision to no longer take emergency calls to local farms. He realizes some vets who are primarily trained to care for pets, are uncomfortable with farm tasks, like castrating pigs. Until Haliburton County sees a new influx of vets, he imagines he'll have to solve problems himself, if he can.

But rather than scoff at the choices individual vets make, he suggests that the Ontario government and its institutions need to come up with creative solutions, as the problem is not about veterinarians themselves.

"It's got to change at the top," he said. "We need to get out there; we need to talk to more and more people."

Dykstra, Mitchell and Tyler all shared that they believe more incentives are needed for veterinarians to work with livestock farmers. They would like to see the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), part of the University of Guelph, give more training and more encouragement for students to consider working with farm animals.

A 2022 report, titled Examining need, capacity, and barriers to accessing food animal veterinary services in underserved areas of rural Ontario, addresses many of the issues.

It was written by University of Guelph graduate research assistants Minerva Cancilla-Styles and Alexander Boekestyn and it quoted students who spoke to the lack of training they received on large animals. One quote from an anonymous student said, "there is a lot of great theoretical large animal knowledge taught at OVC, but we are not given the tools to actually practice large animal veterinary."

Mitchell pointed out another factor in the large animal vet shortage is the fact that opening a practice to serve pets is perceived as far more lucrative.

"Young veterinarians are told they can command six figures, working two or three days a week," he said.

Given all this, local farmers are looking for the Ontario government for support. They're calling on Premier Doug Ford to work more with farmers to understand the issue, especially in rural riding, where vets are few and far between.

"It's not a Haliburton story," said Tyler. "It's a policy story and it's a policy failure story."

"We're so far in the mud; it would take the courage of the Minister of Northern Development or Minister of Agriculture to put up the money to have a vet present in our community."



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The last service at Maple Lake United Church was a time to celebrate the life and work of the faith community who have worshipped within the building. It was a time for churchgoers to appreciate the congregation of Maple Lake United Church, which has disbanded, 120 years after the first congregation. /GRACE OBOURNE
Special to the Times



Above, at 89 years old, Kathleen Owens has been an organist for 65 years. She has played and directed the music for worship for the Maple United Church every Sunday for decades.

After the last service, members of Maple Lake United Church took a moment to gather outside the building to embrace each other and reminisce fond memories.

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The art by John Notten, who has his exhibition *Unpacking the Weekend* at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden, provokes and challenges people to see things in new ways. His show with 20 pieces is on until Aug. 24./
DARREN LUM Staff



There's more to the story than a single perspective

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

What you see is not the full scope of what something is to everyone who sees it.

This was the main takeaway from the opening for *Unpacking the Weekend*, the latest exhibition to open at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden.

Toronto-based installation artist John Notten sees things in ways that lead to questions, for himself, his role as an activist artist, for society and for others who hold a different perspective. He takes everyday objects and re-imagines them into new creations to intrigue and challenge conventional thought. Notten was in Minden to open his show and spoke to a small, but captivated crowd about his work and his exhibition at the Minden Cultural Centre on Saturday, July 9.

As stated on the cultural centre's website, "This multimedia, interactive show explores the holiday routine of 'heading up north,' reimagining the mundane objects of cottage country and the commonly held colonial narratives associated with them. It examines assumptions that lie at the heart of 'the north' and the impact that the power and privilege of the weekend ritual has had on Canadian history, culture and identity."

Notten, who grew up in Orillia, has an affinity for the outdoors, loving to camp and explore by canoe. He recognizes there are different perceptions when it comes to something such as the canoe, which can represent escape and connection to nature. However, for others these pieces of equipment can be something else entirely. There is a physical balancing while paddling his canoe on the water and a symbolic balancing of what the canoe is to him as a vehicle of escape to the way it was used by Europeans to extract resources during the colonization of Canada. Where he has feelings of joy with using the canoe there is also pain for Indigenous peoples.

With camping, his tent represents a temporary shelter where he feels at peace and is enabled to escape the modern world to strengthen his connection to nature, which is different to how refugees, who have escaped conflicts and difficulties and see the tent as a temporary structure and have hopes of a transition to something permanent.

This is Notten's second appearance at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, which was made possible by former gallery curator Laurie Carmount, who appreciated his work. The 20-piece exhibition was contracted more than a year ago. In 2017, Notten showcased his work with "The Tent Project."

Notten acknowledges with his development as an artist has led him to see the world a little differently than when he



Artist John Notten speaks about his largest and key piece of the exhibition in Minden, *Uncannyda*. /DARREN LUM Staff

started creating art.

What provided the impetus to his work early on was encapsulated by the Andy Warhol quote: "You need to let the little things that would normally bore you thrill you."

One example he presented during his presentation to illustrate this was how he saw the potential and the aesthetic beauty of a garbage can with a flip lid. It led him to use dozens of cans to create a scaled down version of a cathedral, which possessed the architectural cues of the famous Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Or how he saw the potential of a wheelbarrow, which he transformed in a self-sustained planter where it not only provided produce for people, but an outdoor place to rest in downtown Toronto.

His motivation for his work has evolved and now includes the quote by D.M.R. Bentley, who said, "You need to let the little things that were once 'homey – cozy, familiar and comforting – become the opposite – strange, mysterious and

see page 11

“

Oh, are you saying, maybe I should feel guilty when I get in my canoe or sit on my dock? No, but I think you should think about the place that you're sitting on this land that we're on right now and the privilege of being here. ...

— JOHN NOTTEN

”



Art lovers and anyone who appreciates creativity will value the exhibition Unpacking the Weekend. See more of Notten's art on Instagram at @johnnotten and at his website at johnnotten.com. /DARREN LUM Staff

from page 10

disconcerting.”

When speaking about his largest and key piece of the exhibition in Minden, *Uncannyda*, which is a visual narrative of the many experiences he had with his canoe, he wants people to think.

“So, I show it to you at the end of my presentation, because I think it summarizes in a way that that balance or the grappling that I make between those emotions. And for anybody that may think for a minute: “Oh, are you saying, maybe I should feel guilty when I get in my canoe or sit on my dock? No, but I think you should think about the place that you’re sitting on this land that we’re on right now and the privilege of being here and

in our cottages and in our homes or in our canoes. And so I will continue to canoe but when I canoe I canoe with a different knowledge with a different understanding just because I’ve examined history,” he said.

The exhibition Unpacking the Weekend is on until Aug. 24. The Minden Hills Cultural Centre is located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. The centre is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Tuesday to Saturday. Admission is by donation. See more of Notten's art on Instagram at @johnnotten and at his website at johnnotten.com.

For more information, visit the Township of Minden Hills website at www.minden-hills.ca



John Notten's *Boot Camp*. /DARREN LUM Staff

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for artist images, locations,
and contact information.

Image above by Harvey Walker

Canadian tenor returns to Music at the Gardens



by GRACE OBORNE
Special to the Times

There will be no shortage of music entertainment as a three-day concert series at Abbey Gardens returns to Haliburton County.

On Saturday, Aug. 13, John McDermott, world-renowned tenor, will perform as one of six musical acts for Music at the Gardens for a night of auctioning, dinner, and live entertainment to fundraise for Abbey Gardens and its activities.

McDermott plans to stage a variety of his work, but most songs played will be from his new album, *As the Sky Gives the Ocean*, which pays tribute to moments to McDermott's life. The happy and sad parts, along with lessons and hope he established along the way.

"There are fond memories that we hadn't recorded in a

Beloved Canadian tenor, John McDermott, returns to Haliburton County on Saturday, Aug. 13, to perform for Music at the Gardens, at Abbey Gardens. He'll introduce new songs from his most recent and most personal album thus far called, *As the Sky Gives the Ocean*. /Submitted

while and I was saying to Mark, my producer, that we have so many great stories and we've got all the time in the world with the stuff that's going on around us. So we took the time during the pandemic, about two years, to write, create, and find songs that were important to me," McDermott said.

McDermott said this album is his most personal.

"The songs I've sung in the past are really songs of other writers. Now, these are songs that I've written and that are written by people that I know, so I know that the songs that I've chosen were all written for a purpose, for a reason. There's a good energy attached to the songs because they're not just fluff, there's a good story behind each of them that people will resonate with," McDermott said.

He has worked with his producer, Mark Lalama, to include songs that have deep meaning such as *Danny Boy*.

"The album is bookended with the song that launched my career. I close with my own version of *Danny Boy* with Mark on the piano, which I have never done. I've always sang a cappella, but we did it with piano and Mark did a fantastic job."

The album also showcases the work of Sheila Carabine of DALA Girls as she created the song, *Oh Darling Don't You Know*. DALA Girls are to perform for Music at the Gardens as well.

On the board of directors for Abbey Gardens is Janis Parker. She and McDermott became friends when he first performed at Abbey Gardens in 2019.

"John is somebody that my parents loved forever, and we became friends. When I first jumped up with the idea, three years ago, to have a performance at Abbey Gardens, he was the first person I asked," Parker said.

McDermott has been nominated for numerous Juno awards and in 2012, he was recognized with the Ted Williams Globe and Anchor Award by the Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Society.

McDermott is also known for his commitment to veterans' causes. His foundation is McDermott House Canada. The first project was the renovation and expansion of the veterans' wing at Sunnybrook Hospital. He received the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor Society's Bob Hope award for his contributions.

"I mean, John is just a wonderful man. I mean, he single-handedly raised enough money for the veterans wing at Sunnybrook Hospital. He has just given back to the community in so many different ways," Parker said.

Music at the Gardens will run from Aug. 12 to 14, with Susan Aglukark performing on Friday, McDermott and band will play Saturday evening, and Sunday evening will feature the DALA Girls.

All evening concerts will include pre-concert savories and a dessert buffet. Soft drinks and hot beverages will be complimentary, but beer and wine will only be available for purchase.

Matinee performances include Dizzy and Fay on Saturday, and the Nicholas Russell Standard Trio, and Nick and Benton on Sunday.

Evening tickets are \$100 per person, while matinee tickets are \$30 per person.

For a weekend pass and for all concerts, it is \$300 per person.

To purchase tickets for John McDermott's performance, abbeygardens.ca/product/johnmcdermott/ or email Janis Parker at janis@parkerpad.com.



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Keep track of what's happening in Minden on Instagram

@ MindenTimes



The Haliburton Huskies players endure the "Beep Test" - an endurance running workout - during the fitness test day on Saturday, July 9 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. The team's coaching staff uses the series of fitness tests from the day to establish a baseline of understanding for each player, which can be used for development purposes. /FILE DARREN LUM Staff

Huskies unveil new roster with new captain and starting goalie

by ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Times

After the inaugural 2021-22 Haliburton County Huskies season ended in playoff heartbreak, this off season the team set out to find new talent to replace the departing players. Four core members of the Huskies left the team due to aging out, starting goalie Christian Cicigoi, players Simon Rose, Nate Porter, who was the team's captain, and Payton Schaly. Forward and the team's top-scorer, Oliver Tarr accepted an NCAA Division 1 scholarship to Canisius College in Buffalo, forgoing his final year of Ontario Junior Hockey League eligibility to play college hockey.

While those players said goodbye to last year, a few more players announced they would be leaving the county in pursuit of new opportunities. Local players Joe Boice and Ryan Hall announced they would both be leaving the Huskies. Boice for academic opportunities and Hall being sent to play in a different league. Bryce Richardson and Kolby Poulin left the Huskies, while Nick Athanasakos was traded to Pickering in exchange for Myles Perry, and Jonah Cochrane was shipped to Brantford in exchange for Alex Cunningham.

Rookie defensemen Noah Van Vliet was not only a member of the Huskies last season, but a member of the 2021-22 Ontario Hockey League championship winning Hamilton Bulldogs. Having played in the 2022 Memorial Cup, Van Vliet was invited to attend Toronto Maple Leafs development camp in July. However, Van Vliet will not be returning to the Huskies as he looks to take a permanent spot on the Bulldogs blue line.

"It's hard to fill these spots in the roster," said head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay. "We lost a lot of key guys and key secondary guys as well. I love this part of the job the most, preparing and getting a team going is something we do every year but we've worked hard over the summer to put together a competitive team and I think we are well prepared for the upcoming year."

Despite these losses, the Huskies quickly got to work adding to their roster. First up was Cunningham, a 2002 born forward acquired from the Brantford 99ers. With 23 points in 45 games last season, he looks to add experience to the Huskies offense. Bracebridge, Ontario forward Nicholas Dowling was acquired by the Huskies on June 30 from the Brockville Braves of the Central Canada Hockey League (CCHL). Dowling logged 45 points during his under-18 career with the North Central Predators and a further 15 CCHL points with Brockville.

Perry, a former member of the defending OJHL champion Pickering Panthers, will make his Huskies debut this season. Perry logged 35 points with the Panthers, with an additional 32 points coming from his time in North York. In addition to the trades, the team also signed goalie Tyler Hodges and forwards Leo Serlin and Declan Bowmaster. All three players made appearances with the Huskies last season.

Hodges picked up a 3-1 victory in October over the North York Rangers in his lone start of 2021, while Serlin has



come up from the Toronto Marlboros under-16 team, logging 48 points in 45 games. Serlin made one appearance with the Huskies last season, logging no points and two penalty minutes. Bowmaster put up three assists in four games with the Huskies, a rather standout debut for the Newmarket, Ontario forward, who nearly scored on his first OJHL shot. Bowmaster spent most of his 2021-22 season with the Oshawa Generals under-18 team, tallying 21 points in 26 games.

"I think our team is better than it was last year," Ramsay said. "We've brought in a lot of good pieces, we made some pretty big trades during the season last year, but I really like our roster this year. We have a lot of returning players as well, now that they are older I think that's a big key factor as well."

In addition to the new players, the second captain in Huskies history was named earlier this month. Christian Stevens will proudly wear the "C" on his jersey this year, while Isaac Sooklal will be the assistant captain. Stevens logged 48 points in 45 games last season with the Huskies, after coming from the OHL's North Bay Battalion. Stevens most notably scored the first ever Michigan-style goal at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, the goal coming during a 4-3 loss to the Caledon Admirals.

Taking over for Porter won't be an easy job, but Stevens feels he is up for the challenge having learned a lot from the former captain last year. This is something he has dreamt of for a long time during his hockey career, but also something he is used to in his junior days.

"It's an honour truly," Stevens said. "This is a great group of guys and Nate Porter did a fantastic job last season. I thought I had it in me, and when I was a kid I was always a captain in minor so it feels amazing. We are all still pretty riled up after the end to the season last year, so I'm looking forward to getting back at it and leading some of these young guys and hopefully make a good playoff push."

The decision was one that the coaching staff deliberated

“

It's an honour truly ... this is a great group of guys and Nate Porter did a fantastic job last season. I thought I had it in me, and when I was a kid I was always a captain in minor so it feels amazing.

— HUSKIES CAPTAIN, CHRISTIAN STEVENS

”

on for a while, but the choice to give Stevens the captaincy is one that coach Ramsay feels will give the team the best possible leadership core.

"Stevens is a great kid who works super hard on and off the ice," Ramsay added. "He is very vocal on the ice and is a kid who leads by example. He has matured a lot over the years I've known him and he knows how to step up. He has been with us for over five years, from Whitby to Haliburton. We will also have Isaac Sooklal who will have the assistant captain duties and will take the roll of captain whenever Christian isn't in the lineup."

In terms of goalies, Ramsay did confirm that Christian Linton will be the starter come opening night with rookie Tyler Hodges serving as a backup. Linton, had a record of 6-6-0 with one shutout and a save percentage of .920. Making a total of 13 starts last season backing up Cicigoi, Linton shined during a tough late season stretch where he won four games in a row.

While Hodges played one game last year, a 3-1 win against the Rangers back on October 10. Spending a majority of last season with the York-Simcoe Express under-18, recording a 2.95 save percentage in 14 games played. Hodges is only 16, and coach Ramsay believes he still has a lot to learn before being able to step up to starter.

"Chris Linton will be our starter for this year," Ramsay concluded. "Linton played really well in the games he started last year and we are looking for improvements for this season. He has been working hard in the off season and is a great kid all around. Tyler Hodges is still young, he is only 16, and although he started a game for us last year, which he won, he still needs to get comfortable in this league and find his groove. He has a lot to learn, but Hodges is another hard worker and we know he will settle in rather quickly."

As the 2022-23 season looms closer, expect more player announcements and more fantastic Huskies hockey. A full seasons schedule has yet to be released, however, fans can expect that announcement will come in the next few weeks.

Residents of Canning Lake raise money for HHHS during their annual Kayak Canning for a Cause. This will be the event's first year back since 2019. The community of Minden is invited to join Canning Lake this Saturday. /Submitted



Residents of Canning Lake set to paddle in support of HHHS

Canning Lake is the place to be this Saturday. Whether you canoe, kayak or paddleboard, grab your paddles because Kayak Canning for a Cause is back for another year. The Canning Lake Property Owners Association is welcoming residents of Minden to join Canning Lake for their annual event on July 23.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. on co-

organizer, Bill Lithgow's waterfront, which is located on the south shore. The registration fee is a \$20 donation in support of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

"To raise money for the hospital is a great cause. Hospitals always need lots of extra funding as everybody is stretched, and the hospital and health care services in the area

are very important to all of us," said co-organizer, Helen Bacik.

Paddling will start at 10 a.m. and will end at noon on Bacik's dock, located on the north-west shore, across from Battle Island.

The first Kayak Canning took place in 2013 when the lake association noticed that kayaking was becoming a more popular activity on the lake. Due to COVID-19, this will be the first paddling event back since 2019.

With the virus still a concern, members of lake association decided against having a lunch at the end of the paddle excursion. The event's lunch was favoured by all participants.

"This year, we're really anxious to have the event again, because it's a great social event for a great cause. But we at the time of planning, we were unsure where the pandemic would be and what the rules would be. We decided to run the event, because distancing in kayaks is quite simple, but to not host the lunch at the end of the event, because people would be in close quarters," said Bacik.

"There has always been a lunch every year, so this will be the first time running the event without a lunch. We certainly hope to get it back for next year."

Residents of Canning Lake look forward to Kayak Canning and enjoy the morning spent on the lake with neighbors and loved ones.

"I kayak with a lot of other women on the lake weekly but the best part about this is that we get to meet up [with] different people that we haven't seen for a while. I get to meet new people as well and it's just a good time for everybody to come out and get some ex-

ercise," said Canning Lake resident, Cindy Platz.

"My husband, Kurt, from the beginning, has run the safety boat which follows along in case anybody runs into any trouble. He usually has water in case anybody didn't bring any with them. He's just there to make sure everybody is safe."

For permanent residents such as the Platz, the hospitals and health services in the county are important to them.

Lisa Tompkins, the executive director for HHHS, extends her gratitude and excitement for Kayak Canning.

"We've had many reasons to be very grateful to many residents of Canning Lake and summer cottagers for their generosity over the years. I know that this event has taken place in the past and we're delighted to hear that they're able to do it again this year. I wish them a great and safe day on the water with lots of sunshine," Tompkins said.

Kayak Canning's rain date is on Sunday, July 24.

Members of the association and residents of Canning Lake encourage first-time participants.

"I am very excited to be back and spend time together. I hope many of the members on the lake feel the same way. I look forward to seeing new faces as we're hoping to have a great turnout. Everybody's just ready to get back to the fun we used to have," Bacik said.

For more information, visit www.canninglake.ca, click on "Say Hi," and then click on "General Enquiries" to leave a message for the event organizers.

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Intermediate

Answers on page 14



Kayak Canning for a Cause returns for another year after a pandemic hiatus. The last time Kayak Canning occurred was in 2019. /Submitted

A warm hug for Haliburton County residents facing cancer

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Abbey Retreat Centre's (ARC) new program is offering a warm embrace and comforting emotional support to people with a cancer diagnosis and the caregivers in their lives.

A Warm Hug from the Highlands program is an initiative launching this fall, which was started by ARC board member, fibre artist, and cancer survivor Shelley van Nood.

Volunteers will be constructing hand-made, flannel-back quilts to give to local and seasonal residents living with cancer.

"One of the missing ingredients for Abbey Retreat Centre was a local, tangible aspect to the centre. Retreats are wonderful, but Shelley showed up with this vision of it being a comfort centre with a focus on peer support. [The program came from] Shelly's experience with cancer, experience as a support person to people, a quilter, and a vision to create something to provide the support and comfort she longed for," said ARC co-director Barb Smith-Morrison.

The Abbey Retreat Centre in Algonquin Highlands is a not-for-profit organization for those facing a cancer diagnosis and their supporters "that cares for the body, mind, and spirit of a person while they are living with cancer," said Smith-Morrison in her article for last week's *County Life*.

Shelley van Nood is a Haliburton local who recently overcame cancer. She is an avid quilter and joined the Abbey Retreat Centre board as a director within the past year.

She said that quilts were an important aspect to provide comfort during her cancer experience, much like other cancer patients.

"When we do online programs, we actually see people wrapped in quilts, because if they are too ill to come to an in-person retreat or if the list is too long, they will attend our programs online. They usually say, 'I'm sorry I'm just so cold,' and everyone else will completely understand because sometimes cancer treatments can leave you feeling very cold all the time," said Smith-Morrison.

Sometimes, van Nood still attends Zoom meetings with a quilt wrapped around her.

"They're warm, and you're always cold when going through treatment, so you're always looking for that warm thing. They're also good as a weighted blanket if you are feeling anxiety," van Nood said.

In addition to the physical comfort of a fleece-backed quilt, the initiative also aims to provide a blanket of emotional support.

"There's going to be a tag attached to each quilt, and on that tag will be everybody who helped make that quilt. Each person will write their name on the tag and words of love or encouragement for the recipient," van Nood said.

The repetitive act of cutting fabric and sewing quilts together was also very soothing to her during her illness.

So far, the experience of volunteers getting together to quilt has been healing for them and an opportunity to learn a new skill.

"It was neat that the two people we had here as volunteers just needed to be with other people and to be doing something meaningful for others," van Nood said.

Another important aspect to the program will be peer support.

"Our first concentration will be on caregivers, because I had support. My husband was always sitting in the chair beside me looking after me, but who's looking after him? Caregivers need support too," van Nood said.

The peer support will provide connection when someone experiencing cancer as a patient or caregiver needs a person to talk to who understands what they are experiencing.

"We want to orient our peer support people to know how to come alongside someone and be a deep listener and then speak about what worked for them," Smith-Morrison said.

A soft launch of the quilt aspect of the project has already happened with one local person receiving a quilt.

There are three volunteers currently, but ARC would like to extend an invite to anyone who is interested in helping create the quilts, whether it's helping to sew, iron, or cut fabric. No experience is necessary.

ARC is also accepting fabric donations for the program.

The full launch of the program will be in mid-October to early November, but if you'd like to donate material or become a volunteer for A Warm Hug from the Highlands, please reach out to Abbey Retreat Centre info@abbeyretreat-centre.ca or phone 705-754-2966.



Abbey Retreat Centre (ARC) board director Shelley van Nood is leading a new ARC initiative called A Warm Hug From the Highlands which will provide local and seasonal Haliburton County residents with a cancer diagnosis with a quilt that has been handmade by volunteers. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Shelley van Nood's quilting studio space is filled with an abundance of bright colours and rich texture.

Satirical showcase

Cecily Cardew, left, played by Hannah Klose, comes face to face with the indomitable Lady Bracknell, with John Jackson in the featured role, in the Highlands Summer Festival production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The play continues at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion until July 26. For tickets and information about other shows see www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca. /Photos by Sue Vorvis



Above, Cecily Cardew, as played by Klose, from left, and Gwendolen Fairfax, as played by Amy Leis.

Left, Cecily Cardew, as played by Klose, receives a kiss on the hand by Algernon Moncrief, played by Andrew Case in the Highlands Summer Festival production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The classic period piece from the late-1800s satirizes the manners of Victoria England.

AHFS seeking new firefighter recruits

Algonquin Highlands Fire Services (AHFS) is searching for new members. "Our goal is to bring them in in the fall, so they can try the position, and see if they like it," said fire chief Michael French. AHFS operates three fire halls – located in Stanhope, Dorset and Oxtongue Lake – and training for its volunteer members takes place one evening per week at their community hall. Beginning in January, certification training happens one weekend per month, for six months. The certification course can be of added benefit to those hoping to pursue a full-time career in firefighting. But volunteer firefighting comes with plenty of other benefits as well. "You're reaching your community," French said, adding recruits are sure to make friends along the way. "There is a sense of self-pride and accomplishment." The chief adds that often, learning about firefighting leads

to a desire to learn more about firefighting. "Your interest grows as you become more and more involved," French said. Anyone interested in joining AHFS can find application forms on the Algonquin Highlands website at www.algonquinhighlands.ca/deptdocs/2021-03_AHFS_Volunteer_application-form.pdf. For more information, contact French at mfrench@algonquinhighlands.ca or call 705-489-2379, ext. 343.

Submitted by the Township of Algonquin Highlands

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GENERATIONS



Children gather together, figuring out ways to help a snake, which became a learning opportunity to teach empathy. /Submitted by Lindsay Jowett

Use opportunities for developing empathy and justice in children

Children have an amazing capacity for empathy and justice, as educators we try to find the natural moments in which children display these tendencies and encourage the development of those traits. It can initially seem like a daunting task to encourage a child’s sense of justice, but it mostly takes listening to their thoughts and feelings about a situation and helping them to realize that they have the capacity to take action, enact change, and help others. I wanted to share a recent story from our summer program in which we were able to find a natural moment to do exactly that.

Our kindergarten/Grade 1 group was very excited to find a snake in the drain in the yard. We watched the snake swim around down there and noticed that it never seemed to pause or take a rest. They were very concerned about the snake’s well-being and after talking together I suggested that we mount a rescue mission. They loved that idea!

The children knew that we couldn’t open the drain to go into it, so we had to find a different way to reach the snake. They brainstormed together and decided to try and make a ramp out of sticks. They hunted through the forest for exactly the right sticks to use. It was tricky to find the right sticks. They had to be long enough to reach the snake, sturdy enough to support the snake’s body, but also thin enough to fit between the holes of the drain. But they were persistent and found two sticks that ended up working. After several minutes of engineering they were able to get the sticks set up exactly how they wanted them.

The children carefully watched the snake, eager to see his escape, but the snake didn’t go near the sticks right away. They wondered why he wasn’t eagerly escaping, until one of the children suggested that the snake might be scared of them.

“We’re giants to a snake!” they told us.

The children gave the snake a lot of space, going away to play, but keeping a very close eye on the drain for any sign of the snake, with some kids assigning themselves to “snake-watch” and stay close to the drain.

Once they saw the snake beginning to climb up the stick, they excitedly called over all of the other children to watch. As the snake emerged from the drain the children gathered around in a big circle. They wanted everyone to be able to see, but be far enough back that they wouldn’t scare the snake. They wondered where the snake would go once he was free. The forest? The creek? The rocks? One of the children remembered that they’d found a snake hole at the rocks before and suggested that it might be the snake’s home. It took a bit for the snake to get his bearings after reaching the top of the drain. As we were watching the snake we talked about how it might be feeling, and the children made suggestions and used examples from their own lives from when they felt nervous or scared. The snake did eventually get on the move and go to the very snake hole at the rocks that the children had noticed before. We talked about our snake rescue for the rest of the day.

As you can see it can be very easy to create opportunities to support children’s developing empathy and their awareness of social justice and their own power. Children want to help, but they can sometimes feel powerless in situations, so paying attention to and listening for those opportunities where they can take action can be critical. In the process you might find children develop other skills and learn more about the world around them.

Submitted by Lindsay Jowett OCT Site Supervisor Compass ELC Archie Stouffer



NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE
Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s. 32)

2022 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

NOMINATIONS
Nominations for the positions listed below must be made on the prescribed form (Form 1) and must include signatures of **at least 25 persons** (eligible electors within your municipality) endorsing the nomination on the prescribed form (Form 2) (**School Board Trustees are excluded from the 25 signature requirement**). Nomination forms are available at your local municipal Clerk’s Office or on the municipality’s website. All Nomination forms must be filed, either in person or by your agent, with the Clerk/Returning Officer of the appropriate municipality during normal office hours between May 2, 2022 to Thursday, August 18, 2022, and between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2022 (Nomination Day).

The required filing fee for the Head of Council is \$200.00 and all other offices are \$100.00, cash, debit, certified cheque or money order made payable to the appropriate municipality, and must accompany the signed forms. Full details on the procedures to be followed may be obtained from the appropriate Municipal Clerk. Please call the appropriate office to schedule an appointment to file your nomination.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED:

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COUNCILLOR		DEPUTY MAYOR	(1)
Ward 1	(1)	COUNCILLOR	
Ward 2	(2)	Ward 1	(1)
Ward 3	(1)	Ward 2	(1)
		Ward 3	(1)
		Ward 4	(1)
		Ward 5	(1)
Returning Officer – Dawn Newhook		Returning Officer – Mallory Bishop	
Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: 705-489-2379 www.algonquinhighlands.ca Email: dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca		Municipality of Dysart et al 135 Maple Avenue P.O. Box 389 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-457-1740 www.dysartetel.ca Email: mbishop@dysartetel.ca	
Municipality of Highlands East		Township of Minden Hills	
MAYOR	(1)	MAYOR	(1)
COUNCILLOR		DEPUTY MAYOR	(1)
Ward 1	(1)	COUNCILLOR	
Ward 2	(1)	At Large	(1)
Ward 3	(1)	Ward 1	(2)
Ward 4	(1)	Ward 2	(1)
		Ward 3	(1)
Returning Officer – Robyn Rogers		Returning Officer – Trisha McKibbin	
Municipality of Highlands East 2249 Loop Road P.O. Box 295 Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0 Tel: 705-448-2981 www.highlandseast.ca Email: rogers@highlandseast.ca		Township of Minden Hills 7 Milne Street P.O. Box 359 Minden, ON K0M 2K0 Tel: 705-286-1260 Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260 www.mindenhills.ca Email: elections@mindenhills.ca	

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICES FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED

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Representing the County of Haliburton with the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.	Representing Sector 1 – Counties of Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Hastings; Cities of Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes, and the Region of Durham of Conseil scolaire Viamonde.
Nominations to be filed with the Clerk, Township of Dysart et al	Nominations to be filed with the Clerk, City of Oshawa or a local Municipal Clerk/Returning Officer within Sector 1.
Returning Officer – Mallory Bishop	The County of Haliburton Local Municipal Clerk(s)/Returning Officer(s) and municipal contact information is above.
Municipality of Dysart et al 135 Maple Avenue P.O. Box 389 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-457-1740 Email: mbishop@dysartetel.ca Website: www.dysartetel.ca	Or City Clerks Services: City of Oshawa 50 Centre Street South, Oshawa, ON Toll Free: 1-800-667-4292 Phone: (905) 436-3311 Email: clerks@oshawa.ca Website: www.oshawa.ca

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Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a
detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca
no later than July 29, 2022 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those
selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation
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The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires a Service Desk Technician

Reporting to the Service Desk Supervisor, the Service Desk Technician is responsible for providing exceptional customer service and complete support for the client environment including hardware, operating systems, applications and network equipment.

Requirements for this position include a 2 year diploma or degree in Information Technology or a related discipline, and 1-2 years of related technical knowledge and skills gained through proven work experience.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description. The hourly rate for the CUPE Local 1960 is \$30.05.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than August 5, 2022 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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The successful candidate will have post-secondary education in public administration, law clerk administration, planning or a similar discipline with 3 years of experience. Knowledge of parliamentary procedures regarding the conduct of meetings an asset.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description. The hourly rate for the CUPE Local 1960 is \$30.95.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than July 29, 2022 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

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It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our wonderful Jim. A great man, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend to so many. Predeceased by his parents Nellie Boulton and James Misener. He was a devoted husband to Christine Brown caring father to Mari-Lynn and Gary Plummer Jim and Reema Misener Earl and Jamie Misener. Caring grandfather to all his grand-kids Justin and Tarah Mike and Hanna Kevin Matt Jen Lindsay and Nathan. Survived as well by his close friend and mother of his children Marilynn. He was a trailblazer dealmaker a successful businessperson investor and a philanthropist. Jim loved working and was willing to slow down but unwilling to retire. He was a wealth of trusted knowledge experience and know-how. He enjoyed the outdoors observing wildlife going fishing especially with his FUBAR fishing club and was a great supporter of local conservation efforts. Jim adored spending time with Christine as they travelled between Barbados Haliburton Spain and Florida each year. Family and friends were always welcome. Anywhere anytime. He is also the reason Amazon is doing so well. Packages are still arriving to this day. Together we will finish what he started. We have been left with big shoes to fill. We lost our living legend and he will be truly missed. For his friends in Haliburton an open house will be held on July 30th from 2pm to 5pm at the family cottage in celebration of his life. Contact a family member if you need more information. As an expression of sympathy donations can be made in his name to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

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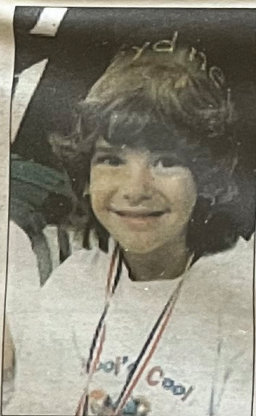
Young Mike Lennox of Minden is shaping up to be one of the best golfers in Canada.

See page 17



Fun at the fair

Three-year-old Rowan Tofflemire of Eagle Lake's face says it all: the Haliburton County Fair was the place to be this past weekend. We've got photos from Friday night's midway on page 16. Look for more fair and parade pictures in next week's *Times*.



School's Cool

Program prepares its young graduates for their first day of kindergarten.

See page 14

In Quotes

"If I would've known this airport cost me so much noise, I wouldn't have bought my cottage here." Cottager at Maple and Beech Lake meeting.

See page 2

Hair today, wig tomorrow

Blairhampton sisters donate hair to cancer victims

by **SHERYL LOUCKS**
Times staff

Kaitlyn McMurray has beautiful strawberry blond, naturally curly thick hair that used to hang almost to her waist. Last Thursday, the 15-year-old decided to donate her locks to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Kaitlyn and her sister Bethany, from Blairhampton, read an article in the Club House magazine about how hot and uncomfortable fake hair wigs are for cancer victims to wear. The story told them about the advantages of human hair wigs and how the society is always looking for donations of hair to be made into wigs.

"I think I'm ready for a change. It takes me an hour to comb through my hair now. But I don't know what it will do when it is shorter," says Kaitlyn. "There are lots of reasons to donate your hair to the cancer society. Children and adults will feel better about themselves if they can have real hair."

She managed to grin her way through the process as 10 inches of her braided hair was cut off by Margo McCrea at Haliburton Hairdressing, but Bethany was not as confident.

The two sisters make an interesting pair as one has straight blondish hair with a bit of a wave to it and the other has remarkably curly hair.

Bethany has been growing her hair for 10 years.

"I haven't had it cut since Kaitlyn cut it off with little rounded children's play scissors - you know the kind

see SISTERS page 2



Kaitlyn McMurray holds up a braid of her beautiful hair.

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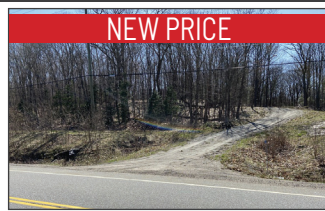
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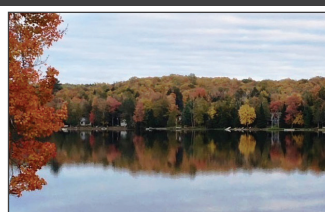
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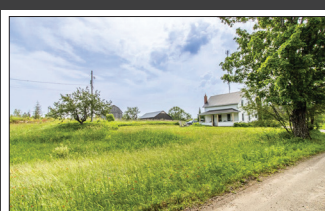
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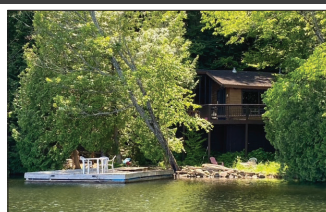
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